

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/CA2004/001503

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

According to the International Patent Classification (IPC)
G01N 33/68, G01N 33/53, and G01N 33/569

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

G01N 33

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Google and MSN Recherche

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base, and, where practicable, search terms used)

Pubmed, Derwent (from Delphion)

epitope*, épitope* (French), marqueur antigénique* (French), protect*, block*, detect*, denatur*,
disaggregat*, conformat*, assay, prion, prion disease*, PrPsc, PrPc, succinic anhydride, diethyl
pyrocarbonate, peroxyinitrite

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|---|-----------------------|
| Y | US 6406864 B2 (The Regent of the Univ. of California) 18 June 2002 Refer to col. 3-4, 12-16, example 6, and claim 8 | 1-8, 10-39 |
| Y, P | CA 2452946 A1 (Ortho-clinical diagnostics, inc.) 19 June 2004 Refer to claim 4 | 31-38 |
| Y | CA 2408762 A1 (Aventis behring GMBH) 19 April 2003 Refer to pages 2-8 and claim 6 | 1-8, 10-30, 39 |

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

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|---|--|
| * Special categories of cited documents : | "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention |
| "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance | "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone |
| "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date | "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art |
| "I" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) | "&" document member of the same patent family |
| "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means | |
| "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed | |

Date of the actual completion of the international-type search

7 December 2004 (7-12-2004)

Date of mailing of the international-type search report

24 December 2004 (24-12-2004)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/
Commissioner of Patents
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| C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | |
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| Y | Bolton et al. (Jul 1991). Molecular Location of a species-specific epitope on the hamster scrapie agent protein. <i>J of Virology</i> . 65(7): 3667-3675. Refer to page 3668, 1 st two paragraphs; and page 3671, subsection: Chemical modification of the epitope | 1-30, 39 |
| A | Safar et al. (November 2002). Measuring prions causing bovine spongiform encephalopathy or chronic wasting disease by immunoassays and transgenic mice. <i>Nat Biotechnol</i> . 20(11): 1147-1150. Refer to the whole document | 1-8, 10-30, 39 |
| A | Paramithiotis et al. (Jul 2003). A prion protein epitope selective for the pathologically misfolded conformation. <i>Nat Med</i> . 9(7): 893-899. Refer to page 893, 2 nd col.; page 894, 1 st col.; page 895; and methods. | 1-8, 15-28 |
| A | Goldberg M. (April 2003). Le prion: un agent pathogène encore mystérieux. Extrait de <i>La Lettre de l'Institut Pasteur</i> . 41: 1-10. Refer to page 5, subsection: "Améliorer la sensibilité des tests de détections" | 1-39 |
| A | Guilbert C. (April 2001). La dynamique du prion. <i>Biofutur, Hors Série avril 2001</i> : 30-32. Refer to the whole document for background on prion | 1-39 |
| A, E | Soto C. (October 2004). Diagnosing prion diseases: needs, challenges and hopes. <i>Nature Rev Microbiol</i> . 2(10): 809-819. Refer to the whole document for background on prion detection methods | 1-39 |

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Information on patent family members

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